

PAPYROLOGICA FLORENTINA

a cura di Rosario Pintaudi

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EARLY CHRISTIAN GOSPELS:
THEIR PRODUCTION AND TRANSMISSION



EDIZIONI GONNELLI

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*For Amy, Deborah, and James,
who have supported this long endeavour
with much love and patience*

(Daniel 1:17 OG)

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PREFACE

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The thorough revision and augmentation of the doctoral thesis upon which this book is based was assisted by periods of research leave provided by Pacific Adventist University in Papua New Guinea. On a couple of occasions, Alanna Nobbs made available the resources of the Department of Ancient History at Macquarie University. During the revision, the comments of my doctoral examiners, Rosario Pintaudi (Bibliotheca Medicea Laurenziana, Florence), Marius Reiser (Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz), and Peter van Minnen (University of Cincinnati), were helpful. J.K. Elliott, M.W. Holmes, and T. Wasserman offered comments and suggestions on drafts of various text-critical sections in the book. None of these scholars should be held responsible for any errors that come to light. A. Blanchard, G. Bastianini, T. Gagos, J. Lundon, R. Pintaudi, and S. Toralles-Tovar examined papyri on my behalf. I am also grateful to Rosario Pintaudi for accepting the manuscript for publication in the series *Papyrologica Florentina*. The book has been published with financial assistance from the Greek Publication Fund (Australia), the Australian Academy of the Humanities, and the Australian Institute of Archaeology.

A number of chapters draw on previously published material. Most of Chapter 1 was published as 'The gospel manuscript tradition', in A. Nobbs and M. Harding (eds.), *The content and setting of the gospel tradition* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010) 28-61. Parts of Chapter 2 ap-

peared as ‘Public and private—second- and third-century gospel manuscripts’, in C.A. Evans and H.D. Zacharias (eds.), *Jewish and Christian scripture as artifact and canon* (SSEJC 13; Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 2009) 148-75 (revision of *Buried History: Journal of the Australian Institute of Archaeology* 42 [2006] 25-36). Chapter 3 is substantially the same as ‘Consensus standardization in the systematic approach to *nomina sacra* in second- and third-century gospel manuscripts’, *Aegyptus* 86 (2006) 37-68. Parts of Chapter 6 were published as ‘The end of orality: transmission of gospel tradition in the second and third centuries’, in R. Scodel (ed.), *Between orality and literacy: communication and adaptation in antiquity* (*Orality and Literacy in the Ancient World* 10; Leiden: Brill, 2014) 331-55. In addition, a section of ‘Consensus standardization’ (*Aegyptus*) and Table 1 from ‘Public and private’ (Evans/Zacharias) were adapted for use in ‘Indicators of “catholicity” in early gospel manuscripts’, in C.E. Hill and M.J. Kruger (eds.), *The early text of the gospels* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012) 37-48. Wherever these publications and this book are at odds, readers should assume that the book contains my more considered opinion.

ABBREVIATIONS

Ancient

°gospels	canonical gospels
<i>GEgerton</i>	P.Egerton inv. 2
<i>GMary</i>	<i>Gospel of Mary</i>
<i>GPet</i>	<i>Gospel of Peter</i>
<i>GTh</i>	<i>Gospel of Thomas</i>
<i>HE</i>	Eusebius, <i>Historia ecclesiastica</i>
LCL	Loeb Classical Library
LDAB	Leuven Database of Ancient Books, < http://www.trismegistos.org/ldab/ >
LXX	Septuagint
MS, MSS	manuscript, manuscripts
"gospels	non-canonical gospels
NT	New Testament
OT	Old Testament
par.	synoptic parallel(s)
P.Oxy.	When reference is made to a specific papyrus, the abbreviation is given in roman type: e.g., P.Oxy. 24.2383. Papyri are abbreviated according to J.F. Oates, R.S. Bagnall, S.J. Clackson, A.A. O'Brien, J.D. Sosin, T.G. Wilfong, and K.A. Worp, <i>Checklist of Greek, Latin, Demotic and Coptic papyri, ostraca and tablets</i> , < http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/papyrus/texts/clist.html >, June, 2011.
<i>P.Oxy.</i>	When reference is made (usually in a footnote) to specific page numbers in an edition or to comments of the editor(s), the abbreviation is given in italic type along with the name of the editor(s), volume number, date of publication, and the page number(s): e.g., E.G. Turner, <i>P.Oxy.</i> 24 (1957) 4.
TLG	Thesaurus Linguae Graecae, < http://www.tlg.uci.edu/ >
†	MS is defective in the given verses or section

Modern

<i>ABD</i>	D. Freedman et al. (eds.), <i>Anchor Bible dictionary</i> (6 vols.; New York: Doubleday, 1992).
Alands	K. Aland and B. Aland, <i>The text of the New Testament</i> , tr. E.F. Rhodes (2nd ed.; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989).
Attridge	H.W. Attridge, 'The Greek fragments', in B. Layton (ed.), <i>Nag Hammadi Codex II, 2-7, together with XIII, 2*</i> , <i>Brit. Lib. Or. 4926 (1) and P.Oxy. 1, 654, 655 (NHS 20)</i> ; Leiden: Brill, 1989) 96-128.
BDAG	W. Bauer, <i>A Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament and other early Christian literature</i> , tr. W.F. Arndt and F.W. Gingrich, rev. and expanded F.W. Danker (3rd ed.; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000).
BDF	F. Blass and A. Debrunner, <i>A Greek grammar of the New Testament and other early Christian literature</i> , tr. and rev. R.W. Funk (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1961).

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- IGNTP *Luke* The American and British Committees of the International Greek New Testament Project, *The New Testament in Greek, the Gospel according to St. Luke, Part One: Chapters 1-12* (Oxford: Clarendon, 1984); *Part Two: Chapters 13-24* (Oxford: Clarendon, 1987).
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- Liste K. Aland et al. (eds.), *Kurzgefasste Liste der griechischen Handschriften des Neuen Testaments* (2nd ed.; Berlin: de Gruyter, 1994).
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- NA²⁶ K. Aland et al. (eds.), *Novum Testamentum Graece* (26th ed.; Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1979).
- NA²⁷ B. Aland and K. Aland et al. (eds.), *Novum Testamentum Graece* (27th ed.; Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2001).
- New docs* G.H.R. Horsley, *New documents illustrating early Christianity* (vols. 1-5; Sydney: Macquarie University, Ancient History Documentary Research Centre, 1981-89); S.R. Llewellyn, *New documents illustrating early Christianity* (vols. 6-7; Sydney: Macquarie University, Ancient History Documentary Research Centre, 1997-98; vols. 8-9: Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997-2002); S.R. Llewellyn and J.R. Harrison, *New documents illustrating early Christianity* (vol. 10; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2012).
- PGL G.W.H. Lampe (ed.), *A patristic Greek lexicon* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1961).
- Repertorium* K. Aland, *Repertorium der griechischen christlichen Papyri*, vol. 1: *Biblische Papyri: Altes Testament, Neues Testament, Varia, Apokryphen (PTS 18)*; Berlin and New York: de Gruyter, 1976).
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- Tischendorf C. Tischendorf, *Novum Testamentum Graece: ad antiquissimos testes denuo recensuit apparatus criticum omni studio perfectum apposuit Commentationem Isagogicam praetextuit Constantinus Tischendorf: Editio octava critica maior*, vol. 1: *κατὰ Ματθαίου, κατὰ Μάρκου, κατὰ Λουκᾶν, κατὰ Ἰωάννην* (Lipsiae: Giesecke und Devrient, 1869).
- Typology* E.G. Turner, *The typology of the early codex* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania, 1977).
- van Haelst J. van Haelst, *Catalogue des papyrus littéraires juifs et chrétiens (Série «Papyrologie» 1)*;

Paris: Publications de la Sorbonne, 1976). When reference is made to entry numbers in the *Catalogue*, they are placed in parentheses: e.g., van Haelst (360). Reference is made to specific page number as follows: van Haelst, *Catalogue*, 63.

von Soden H.F. von Soden, *Die Schriften des Neuen Testaments in ihrer ältesten erreichbaren Textgestalt hergestellt auf Grund ihrer Textgeschichte*, vol. 4: *Text und Apparat* (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 1913).

Journals and series are abbreviated in accordance with S. Schwertner, *Internationales Abkürzungsverzeichnis für Theologie und Grenzgebiete: Zeitschriften, Serien, Lexika, Quellenwerke mit bibliographischen Angaben* (2nd ed.; Berlin: de Gruyter, 1992). If not listed in Schwertner, the abbreviations in *L'Année philologique* are used. In the absence of either, the full title is given. Abbreviations for early Christian writers are taken from P.H. Alexander et al. (eds.), *The SBL handbook of style for ancient Near Eastern, biblical, and early Christian studies* (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1999).

DEFINITIONS

A number of terms and abbreviations used regularly throughout the book require fuller explanation than can be given in the abbreviations pages.

All dates are AD unless otherwise specified.

When listing dates for MSS as given by editors and others, centuries are abbreviated as: I = first century; II = second century; III = third century; and so on. Centuries are also divided into quarters: II¹ = the first quarter of the second century; II² = second quarter of the second century; III³⁻⁴ = the last half of the third century; etc. MSS can also be dated to the turn of century: e.g., III/IV = end of the third or beginning of the fourth century (meaning, approximately, the last and first decades of those centuries); or across a number of centuries" e.g., II-III, second or third century.

The term 'early' refers to the period from *c.* 30 to III/IV (i.e., *c.* 290-310). Thus, early gospels are second-, third- and third/fourth-century MSS.

The term 'earliest' refers to the period from *c.* 30 to *c.* 150.

The abbreviation 'par.', as listed above, is a convenient way of referring to synoptic gospel parallels without listing them. These can be found easily in K. Aland (ed.), *Synopsis quattuor evangeliorum: locis parallelis evangeliorum apocryphorum et patrum adhibitis* (Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1963; 15th rev. ed. 2001), or A. Huck, rev. H. Greeven, *Synopse der drei ersten Evangelien mit Beigabe der johanneischen Parallelstellen* (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1981).

On occasion, the symbol // is also used; but mainly when signalling non-synoptic parallels: e.g., Hippolytus, *Haer.* 5.7.20//GTh 4.

TRANSLATIONS AND TRANSCRIPTIONS

All translations of Greek texts, regardless of the source, are my own.

Transcriptions of papyri use the sigla of the Leiden system:

$\alpha\beta$	uncertain letters
....	text is illegible
[]	a break in the text (lacuna)
[$\alpha\beta$]	letter or letters supplied by the editor of the text
{ }	superfluous letter or letters cancelled by the editor
()	resolution of a symbol or abbreviation by the editor
[[]]	letter or letters deleted by the scribe
< >	a mistaken omission by the scribe
<i>vac.</i>	for <i>vacat</i> : indicates that the papyrus is blank at that point
$\backslash\alpha\beta/$	insertion above the line

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P.Oxy. 65.4447. Courtesy Imaging Papyri Project, University of Oxford and Egyptian Exploration Society.

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verso ↓



P.Laur. 2.31. Courtesy of the Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana, Firenze.

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